

## IN MEMORIAM\*

ERVIN H. POLLACK

APRIL 13, 1913—JUNE 9, 1972

He's gone, whose talents charmed the wise,  
Who rescued law from pedant phrase  
Who cleared the student's clouded eyes,  
And led him through the legal maze.

(—from the gravestone of Sir William Blackstone 1723-1780)

*Opening remarks by Dean James C. Kirby, Jr.\*\*:*

It was just 25 years ago this past summer that a young new dean, a North Carolinian named Jefferson Fordham, assumed the deanship of The Ohio State University College of Law, coming here from Vanderbilt University. One of his first tasks was to complete a recruiting job that had been begun by his predecessor, Acting Dean Harry Vanneman. It is apparent from the files that Dean Fordham gave high priority to the recruiting of a new librarian. He even made a special trip to Washington to interview a young law librarian who had been highly recommended by Miles Price of Columbia University. Soon thereafter began a 25-year honeymoon between a man and an institution, and it is the sad occasion of the ending of that period that brings us together today.

Ervin H. Pollack grew up in his native St. Louis and in a small town in Texas, completing public high school in St. Louis. He received his undergraduate pre-law training at St. Louis University and, in 1939, his law degree from Washington University. He then went to Columbia University where he studied Library Science and for two years worked as assistant to Librarian Miles Price, one of the nation's great law librarians. Later when Miles Price recommended him for the job at Ohio State he described him as "the best assistant I ever had."

From Columbia, Professor Pollack went briefly to a New York law firm as its librarian. Then came one of the most significant experiences of his life. In 1942, like many of the other great minds of the country, he was enlisted by the Office of Price Administration, joining the staff as an editor. One of his early tasks there was to educate and orient Chester Bowles as Mr. Bowles became Assistant Administrator of the OPA. He did such a good job that when Bowles later became Administrator of OPA he named Ev Pollack as its Secretary, an important high-level policy position. From 1942 to 1947 he served in this capacity, and during this period some of

---

\* [Ed. note] The Board of Editors wish to recognize the achievement of Dr. Pollack and his singular contribution to the cause of quality legal education by publishing here the remarks made at his Memorial Convocation. The Convocation was held at The Ohio State University College of Law on October 13, 1972. We have also reprinted the text of a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University, adopted July 7, 1972.

\*\* Dean and Professor of Law, The Ohio State University College of Law.

the most enduring friendships of Erv Pollack's life were formed. Many of his friends there also became distinguished law teachers, including Thomas Emerson at Yale, Nathaniel Nathanson at Northwestern, Harry Jones at Columbia and Ed Levi at Chicago. From talking to any of these people, it becomes apparent that they developed warm and lasting feelings for each other and that all were enriched by their intense intellectual experience together at OPA. (Still another bright young lawyer at OPA took a different route. He was a then recent Duke graduate named Richard M. Nixon.)

Ohio State's good fortune began when Jeff Fordham recruited him here in 1947. It is our task as lawyers today to make something of a record of this man's achievements and to note the great affection and esteem held for him in the College of Law community. Representatives of the various constituencies of that community have agreed to take part in this Memorial Convocation. I will introduce them now as a group, and they will follow without further introduction.

Speaking for the students will be a third-year student, one of the editors of the Ohio State Law Journal, Mr. Thomas K. McKnight; for the alumni, Columbus attorney and President-elect of the Alumni Association of the College of Law, Thomas E. Cavendish of the Class of '53; and then for the faculty, one of the members whose service began before Professor Pollack joined us, the senior member of the faculty, Professor Charles C. Callahan. We are indeed fortunate to have coming all the way from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, just for this occasion, Dean Emeritus Frank R. Strong, who was a member of this faculty from 1937 to 1965 and who served as Dean of the College from 1952 to 1965. Professor Strong and Professor Ivan C. Rutledge, who served as Dean of the College from 1965 to 1970 and is still a member of the faculty, will speak for the Deans and the staff; then I will conclude the proceedings with some closing remarks.

*Remarks by Mr. Thomas K. McKnight\*:*

Ladies and gentlemen, I have been given the honor of speaking here today in behalf of our student body. We are not here merely to mourn the loss of a fine professor and friend, but also to reflect on our extreme good fortune in having experienced Professor Pollack's unbounded concern over our welfare in the legal profession. In every step of our years here, he demonstrated his unselfish dedication to the professional competence of lawyers educated at The Ohio State University College of Law. He was forever polishing us as if we were his personal treasures that he would show only to his closest friends in the profession. In grooming us for the practice of law he occasionally had to nudge gently those of us who were lagging behind, but we all knew him as a man totally dedicated to our welfare, The Ohio State University College of Law and the legal profession.

---

\* Member of the Class of 1973, The Ohio State University College of Law.

As we leave this institution to embark on the practice of law, we all share the high honor of knowing that our lives have been touched by the genuine concern of a fine man and a truly great scholar.

*Remarks of Mr. Thomas E. Cavendish\*:*

Mrs. Pollack, Rabbi Pollack, friends and relatives of Dr. Pollack, we are gathered here this afternoon to pay our respect and honor to a truly great and fine person—Dr. Ervin H. Pollack—and to express our deep sympathy to his family at this Memorial Convocation. As a former student, I am honored to participate with his former colleagues in expressing and recording our appreciation of his life and service.

I was fortunate to be among the students taking Dr. Pollack's course in Legal Research. His book *Fundamentals of Legal Research*, which was the text in that course, is now found near the desk of many of his former students. It is within arm's reach of my desk today and its somewhat worn condition attests its value as a guide in the solution of legal problems.

I shall not attempt to relate the accomplishments of Dr. Pollack—all of us present are aware of his many achievements during his association with this great law school. Dr. Pollack's work is one of the reasons why this school has attained the national reputation that it now possesses—a contribution for which all of us are grateful. Instead, I would like to touch upon that which will be a lasting memorial to Dr. Pollack's memory—namely, the library in the College of Law.

During his twenty-five years of service in the College of Law, Dr. Pollack, as Director of Research Services, became, and nationally was considered, one of the outstanding scholars in the field of Legal Research. This was his life.

At the annual meeting of the Law School alumni, shortly before Dr. Pollack's death, a report, submitted by Library Committee Chairman John C. Harlor, acknowledged the debt which the University owes to Dr. Pollack for his management and development of the law library, as evidenced by the fact that it is now the sixth largest law library in the United States.

It is not the size of the library, however, that marks Dr. Pollack's successful efforts—it is the quality of the assembled volumes which portrays his genius. With limited budgets, Dr. Pollack consistently placed emphasis upon quality in making very selective acquisitions of books. Coupled with his expert knowledge of books, Dr. Pollack developed methods of classification and staff organization, thereby making the library superbly functional. Through his efforts the University can now boast that it has one of the finest legal research centers in the United States, one of which students, faculty, alumni and citizens of this State can be justly proud.

These are but a few of Dr. Pollack's many accomplishments which will

---

\* Member of the Ohio Bar; President-elect of The Ohio State University College of Law Alumni Association; member, National Council of the College of Law.

endure. His former students will remember him as a kind and gracious teacher who gladly shared his knowledge with his students, and whose keen mind and personal qualities of helpfulness and integrity will remain with them throughout their years of practice.

The University has lost a great scholar and fine gentleman, but "Erv," as his friends affectionately called him, will live in the memory of all those who knew him as scholar, teacher and friend—and the imprint of his work will remain for the benefit of all those who in the halls of the College of Law prepare for their chosen profession.

We have been blessed to have known and been associated with Dr. Pollack in his distinguished career and I am honored to join with his colleagues in expressing gratitude for his contributions to the law.

*Remarks by Professor Charles C. Callahan\*:*

One day, it likely was early in 1947, I went with Jeff Fordham, who was then Dean of this College, to the Columbus Airport to meet a plane bringing Erv Pollack for a visit to Columbus. This visit was preliminary to Erv's joining us as head of the library and as a member of the faculty. I recall meeting him for the first time then; I can picture how he looked. I recall walking through the airport to the car and conversing with him. But what was said, where we went from the airport, and what particular things followed during his visit have all been erased from my memory by the lapse of 25 years.

A Memorial, by definition, is an occasion for memory. But memory, in my case and I suspect also with others, is a tricky thing. It doesn't come in the form of ready-made generalizations or in any detectable order. Rather, it appears in a series of discrete snapshots of things seen and heard—unrelated things the context of which may be forgotten—things which may or may not have been significant at the time, or now, but which by some mysterious process are recalled after a long time. Over the 25 years I, of course, had many contacts with Erv, both socially and in connection with the work of the College. When the College was in Page Hall and the people engaged in its operation were much fewer than now, there was, understandably, more contact among us than could now be expected. After we moved to the present building and my office was placed next to his, Erv and I, had the virtual day-to-day communication of neighbors. Many times we served together on committees; many times we simply conversed in one office or another, or over lunch or coffee, or in one or the other of our homes. From all this I have many snapshot images of Erv Pollack. For example, I see both of us sitting in Erv's living room along with his family, staring at the twelve-inch screen of an early television set showing recognizable pictures of a wrestling match. Never mind questioning the integrity of the program, or its entertainment value; it was a picture and it

---

\* Professor of Law, The Ohio State University College of Law.

moved. In another flash of memory, I hear Erv pointing out and complaining about a lack of precision in the use of the English language which he had found in some writing by a student or by some other person. This was a matter on which he felt very strongly. I also hear, in some context which my memory does not supply, his jocular reference to certain exemplary inmates of the penitentiary as "trustees." Again I hear Erv talking on a point of Jurisprudence, and referring to the work of some philosopher who was only a name to me; still again he is talking about the St. Louis Cardinals of the 1930's, known as the Gas House Gang, a subject with which I am somewhat more familiar.

These fleeting bits of memory, and many others like them drawn from my personal relation with Erv, now merge into a composite in which I see him as an exceedingly generous man, a man very serious about his work but not so serious as to exclude a bit of humor at an appropriate time. I see him as a man intensely loyal to and solicitous of his family. I see him as a man essentially of my generation but of quite different experience, due partly perhaps to his big-city background, which made exchanges with him exceedingly interesting to me. These memories are all of a highly personal nature, of course. Each of us has his own. But they emphasize what I personally shall miss most with Erv's passing.

Personal memories say nothing of what may be regarded as the public aspect of Erv Pollack, his professional work as teacher, writer and administrator and his service generally to the College and to the University. This public phase has been outlined to you by Dean Kirby and it appears briefly in the Resolution of the Board of Trustees. Most of us are well acquainted with it. The job Erv did in building up the library can scarcely be fully appreciated except by those who used the library before he came. His accomplishment is not even approximated by the mathematical difference between, say, 70,000 and 300,000 volumes, significant as that is. Strange as it may seem now, the theory that one of the principal functions of the library, perhaps the main function, to prevent people's making off with the books, was not wholly dead twenty-five years ago. Erv quickly destroyed such vestiges of that theory as existed here. But the process of adding substantially to the collection, of acquiring housing for it, of arranging it in a more usable fashion, and of obtaining and retaining highly competent staff members to make the whole project function, involved him in long and difficult battles with the inertia and tangled red tape which appear to be virtually inevitable in the administration of a large university. Erv attacked these problems with the energy and determination so characteristic of him. Although he didn't win every battle, he pretty well won the war.

As the administrative demands of the library eased a bit, Erv's industry did not. Rather, he simply channeled a part of it into the academic side.

To me, his ability to deal with the day-to-day difficulties of administration and at the same time immerse himself in a subject so far removed from the day-to-day view as Jurisprudence demonstrated a remarkable facility for shifting gears to meet the immediate situation, a facility I am sure I do not have. Add to this his work on the University rules and his national and even international consultation work, and some of us suspect that toward the end his devotion to the job led him to do more than was at all good for him. But certainly we never heard from him any suggestion that there was a conceivable alternative.

Memorial remarks such as these are perhaps ephemeral things, but a person of Erv's caliber leaves behind him memorials of a more lasting nature than talk or bare memory. We are all at this moment in a building planned in substantial part by Erv Pollack. Again, those of us who were around at the time remember the frustrations that were somehow overcome in that project. Anyone who presently walks into the open stacks of the library, finds what he wants and finds it where one might reasonably expect to find it, or who gets a friendly answer to a question, is observing what is in large part a memorial to Erv. Similarly, there is a lasting memorial in the capabilities of the many students Erv taught and in his writings which will be helpful to students and others for a long time. Finally, and more significant and lasting than the others, there are two fine children—and now we are into the generation of grandchildren—whose lives will serve as living memorials to Erv Pollack.

*Remarks by Dean Frank R. Strong\*:*

A memorial service is no occasion for light-heartedness; we are met today because a beloved colleague has fallen. But this gathering can appropriately be a time for quiet joy and comforting recollection because the one whose memory we honor is Ervin Pollack. We grieve the fact he has been taken from us prematurely. Yet a dirgeful memorial service would be untrue to the full life of great personal satisfaction and distinguished professional accomplishment he lived. He would not have it so, I am sure. Accordingly, it seems altogether fitting to remember him as we knew him in life.

By reason of eighteen years of close association with this friend and colleague I could dwell on several themes. It was for my wife Gertrude and for me a privilege to come to know the family early, to be often in their home and they in ours, to rejoice together in the growing up of our two pairs of children, and to share common interests in other ways. But it is more appropriate for me to turn to professional relationships that Erv and I shared in our common determination to foster the growth of this College of Law in inward quality and national stature. From these on-going associ-

---

\* Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor, The University of North Carolina; Dean and Professor of Law Emeritus, The Ohio State University.

ations can be drawn word pictures that give insight into the highly competent and deeply devoted man he was.

Let me start with the following incident. The law school was fortunate in the mid-sixties to have as a visitor for the academic year Professor Edward Sykes of the Faculty of Law of the University of Queensland. The subvention from his university that largely financed his visit to the United States stipulated that the great part of his leave was to be devoted to research in his specialty of labor law. However, for Ohio State's share of the support he was to offer in spring quarter a course in comparative labor law. Shortly after arrival in September he suggested the wisdom of an examination of the Australian collection in the law library so that there would be time for him to procure from his university needed course material not available in our library. After considerable time in the stacks he emerged with a look of astonishment on his face, to exclaim that the Ohio State Law Library had all the Australian materials available to him at his home university *plus* some side reports not to be had there!

This was no freak occurrence. Ervin Pollack had in less than two decades taken a sound but small collection of 57,000 volumes and built it up to something like 225,000. The figure now stands at 305,000 volumes and the law library of Ohio State's College of Law ranks as one of the finest among the law libraries of the country. Of necessity major funds were required for such dynamic growth—funds that I regret to say had to be largely produced by increases in tuition—but Professor Pollack got more per dollar provided him than I believe any other librarian ever did. He was an incredible bargain finder, and even more amazing in turning duplicates to good advantage in the trading market. I can see him now slipping into my office, eyes atwinkle and a tell-tale expression playing on his lips, to recount a recent achievement in low-cost, high-value acquisition!

But make no mistake. Professor Pollack was no mere collector of books just to up the volume count. Possessed of a keen legal mind, he was not alone a legal scholar in the conventional sense but what might be called a literary scholar as well. To him a quality collection was what counted; it was only the law's incessant outreach that necessarily brought quantity in the wake of quality. No "fat" was ever allowed in the collection, which makes it an even more comprehensive body of legal materials than the great number of volumes would suggest. I recall an occasion when the law library of Columbia University, although overall more than twice the size of this law library, borrowed on interlibrary loan some hard-to-come-by administrative law documents it did not have. But then, Mr. Pollack had been Secretary of the Office of Price Administration during World War II, a most responsible public post where modern administrative law was the essence of the operation. In this of all areas, nothing worthwhile had missed his sharp eye.

The effective administration of a large law library requires a staff of highly qualified specialists, skillfully coordinated. Professor Pollack had a canny ability to ferret out competent staff members and to wield them into a productive unit. Understandably, he would at budget times present the case for merit salary increases, and occasionally for added personnel. In these yearly sessions with him I was always impressed by his personal interest in every member of his staff, by his convincing documentation of the requests he made, and by his constant concern that his recommendations be weighed in the balance with other institutional needs to the end that there be achieved an optimal allocation of the limited additional resources available to the College. Because of the utter reasonableness of this man it was always a delight when it was possible to do something truly worthwhile for the library. A leader, greatly respected, in the American Association of Law Libraries, he at one time had received from a reliable source the hint that the Harvard Law Library would soon bid for one of his key personnel. He and I went into immediate conference over this raiding danger, with the result that when the bid did come it was on terms appreciably less attractive than what we had been able to effectuate in the meantime. Harvard was non-plussed; it was not accustomed to being turned down. Erv and I, on the other hand, took satisfaction in outsmarting the most prestigious law school library in the nation and rejoiced in the individual's decision to remain at Ohio State. She is still here, and she is present in this gathering this afternoon. Some can identify her by this account; I will not embarrass her by disclosing her name.

The two successive appropriations for a new law building to replace Page Hall were a highlight of the 1950's along with a pedagogically unique curriculum that engaged national attention if not emulation. Professor Pollack was Chairman of the Building Committee for the second unit, embracing this auditorium and the library-office wing. His faithfulness and thoroughness in this demanding assignment typified the devotion to duty and commitment to excellence that were his hallmarks. He gave unstintingly of his time and energy in the protracted and sometimes rugged conferences with the building architect and University officials. During construction he never missed a day of watchful oversight; he never missed a detail. Anyone who knows law buildings can quickly tell the difference between one painstakingly designed and faithfully built and one not the beneficiary of such close attention. So long as this structure serves legal education at Ohio State, for so long will this law school remain in great debt to him to whose memory we today pay tribute.

One physical feature of this law building is the excellent layout of the Library. Many have attested to its unique combination of attractiveness and utility. This was the dream of Ervin Pollack that became reality in the opportunity to build what Professor Callahan so early and so aptly



dubbed Page 2. Yet by the time construction was completed the library had grown to 150,000 volumes, and it was no mean feat to move that many books into their new commodious quarters. You can easily guess who it was who so planned and directed the move that it was miraculously achieved in record time, at minimum expense, with all volumes directly transferred to the new shelving in prearranged order. I was not an eye-witness to this remarkable operation, having committed myself many months earlier to teaching at the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies. My absence was the occasion for friendly jibes by Mr. Pollack to the effect that the Dean had purposely arranged to be out of the country when the time came for what was by all odds the most complicated aspect of the departure from the building that had been the home of the College of Law since 1903. Had I been in Columbus, however, I would have been but another onlooker, so completely did Mr. Pollack have the entire operation under firm control.

On the south and west exteriors of this auditorium are seven symbols connoting significant aspects of law. The architect had requested something appropriate to break the monotony of the windowless walls. We recalled the many designs introduced into the original portion of the Northwestern University School of Law building at the suggestion of John Henry Wigmore, then Dean. Prints of these designs were secured and seven selected. When the stone castings made from the selected prints finally arrived on the construction site, six were entirely satisfactory but the one depicting the Magna Carta left much to be desired. The rest of us were disappointed, but resigned to its use. Not so Mr. Pollack. To him the attempted suggestion of wording under the title looked more like cuneiform characters than it did Latin, and he could not abide the thought that those knowledgeable in language forms would shame the College of Law for its ignorance of the language in which the most celebrated document in Anglo-American legal history had been written. As a consequence the questionable lettering was chipped off, leaving the symbol in the puzzlingly nondescript form that remains to this day.

The genius of Ervin Pollack as grand master of law librarianship was not lost on covetous sister institutions. He had several opportunities to leave Ohio State; all were attractive offers and one carried the seductive inducement to "write your own ticket." In declining two of these offers, one from a major Ivy League law school and the other from a leading institution of the Southwest, he confided to me that a major consideration in each decision lay in the fact that it would require most of a decade to bring either of these libraries to the standards already achieved at Ohio State. There was some self-interest in this; there would be little room for creativity in retravelling elsewhere the road he had already so successfully traversed here. Yet his reaction was predominantly one of a deep desire

on his part to forge ahead to greater levels of excellence for Ohio State. How can any of us adequately comprehend the loss to this law school of the one who strove so endlessly to endow it with a magnificent "Laboratory"?

Whether the library of this College of Law should be officially designated as the Ervin H. Pollack Law Library is clearly not for me to say. In any event it is so in point of fact, vouchsafed by the inspiring life of one now departed from our midst whose indelible mark on this Law School will never fade or tarnish.

A familiar passage from the Apocrypha sums it all up for me. In calling for the praise of famous men it is written:

All were honored in their generations,  
And were the glory of their times.  
Their seed shall remain forever,  
And their glory shall not be blotted out.  
Their bodies are buried in peace,  
But their name liveth for evermore.

*Remarks by Professor Ivan C. Rutledge\*:*

Mr. Dean, members of Professor Pollack's family, friends: the philosopher Alfred North Whitehead some years back came upon the idea that the great novelty in our day is the union between passionate interest in detailed facts and equal devotion to abstract generalization. He said this balance of mind has now become part of the tradition which infects cultivated thought. The main business of universities is to transmit this tradition as a widespread influence from generation to generation.

In his studies of theories of reason and nature, which I had the good fortune to read just this year, Professor Pollack said:

They all attest to the faith of democratic man that the actual does not of necessity exclude the ideal. Law as force alone is never a satisfactory explanation of governmental power. Might and right must be united before their reign as law becomes satisfactory in a democratic society.

Great teachers cherish the wisdom of the past and make it relevant to the present. Some have the talent to mix practice with teaching in such a way as to generate new insights into relevance for the present. Mr. Pollack's practice as a library administrator, as a law school administrator, as a governmental servant, and in all of these practical connections that you've heard described today indicate that this talent was present in great quantity in our colleague. Whether teaching Jurisprudence and the literature of the law here in these corridors, teaching the profession at large about the regulation of trade, or helping to form a more perfect union in Central America, his message and his distinguished career stand as part of this great University tradition.

---

\* Professor of Law, The Ohio State University College of Law.

*Concluding remarks by Dean Kirby:*

My thanks, gentlemen, and that of all those assembled here, for your eloquent words of tribute.

Professor Pollack's service spanned the administrations of four different deans of The Ohio State University College of Law. They all had the benefit of his wise counsel and enjoyed the luxury of his superbly efficient administration of the library. I'm sure all would agree that he insulated us from many problems that vex other deans at other law schools. It was my hope that all four of these deans might have been present in person today. Three of us are and the fourth, Jefferson B. Fordham, the one who hired Erv, wanted to be here, but found it impossible. He is at the University of Utah now, having retired from the deanship at the University of Pennsylvania last year, but he has sent some written remarks which he has asked me to present:

It takes people—people with superior qualities of mind and spirit—to make a great institution. In the post World War II development of the College of Law of The Ohio State University, my cherished friend and colleague, Ervin H. Pollack, made a unique contribution of lasting significance.

He was a faculty man, who shared as such in the total educational enterprise. He was very much an active and constructive participant in the team operation. Assuredly, however, he will be remembered best as one of the nation's outstanding law librarians, a superb professional who built at Ohio State one of the country's best law library collections.

He was far more than a collector. His influence upon legal research, both by his example as a service-minded librarian and his contributions as author of leading books on legal research, has been felt across the land.

Above all else, I salute Ervin Pollack and cherish his memory as a warm-hearted friend with shared commitment to love and beauty in human relations. We worked together during all but the first month or so of my service at the College of Law. It was an association of rare felicity for me—one that was enriching and inspiring throughout. A personal note will attest the warmth of feeling that my wife, my sons and I had for him. He arrived in Columbus toward the end of summer in 1947. He came to get on the job and prepare the way for his family. Temporarily, he stayed with the Fordhams. So completely did he win their affections that the room he occupied was regarded and identified as Erv's room for the remainder of our sojourn in Columbus.

Such was the quality of the good man whose memory we honor today. I am so grateful that he was my friend and co-worker.

/s/ Jefferson B. Fordham

And thus we draw near the end of our attempt to reduce to words some of the feelings we have for this man, our esteem and our appreciation for the service he rendered us and others. In a real sense he left his own monuments. His library is the greatest tribute to his professional achievements. Then there are his books and articles, particularly *Fundamentals of Legal Research*, the most widely used casebook on the subject in the country. It

is a unique achievement which cannot be matched. The respect and admiration of countless colleagues, former colleagues and legal and library professional persons throughout the country is an intangible monument to his career.

In still other ways we shall attempt to honor his memory. These proceedings are being transcribed and will be appropriately reproduced and bound, with copies furnished to the family, placed in our library and in the permanent records of the College.

During his own life Erv established a fund for the library and contributions to this fund were made by his friends, in lieu of flowers at the time of his death and funeral. The fund will continue as a source of enrichment of our library resources. His widow, Mrs. Lydia Pollack, has established the Ervin H. Pollack Scholarship Fund and beginning next Fall the first of a succession of Pollack Scholars will matriculate at the College of Law.

Reference has been made to his love of books. This was nowhere manifested more richly than in the rare book collection of the College which he brought from virtually nothing to a collection valued at some \$250,000. It was a real insight into the man to have him show you the rare book collection. Even if you were in the rare book room for some other purpose a book might catch his eye; he would take it down, holding it lovingly but still very tenaciously and firmly as if no one had better dare try to take it from him. He would tell you the importance of this book, its scarcity, and the ingenious means by which he had acquired it. The rare book collection is more than an adornment. It is a quality section of this superb law library he left us. For this reason, it would be appropriate that the rare book collection be named the Ervin H. Pollack Rare Book Collection and that it be housed prominently in a section of the main reading room of the library, appropriately furnished and distinctively designated. It is my hope that this collection will grow and that it will be displayed to every student and all users of the library as a meaningful reminder of one of the things closest to Erv's heart and one of his greatest accomplishments for us.

In closing I would like to read for you a verse Rabbi Pollack read at the private funeral ceremonies which were held for his brother. It was a favorite of Erv Pollack's and provides insights into his philosophy of life, his high personal standards, his great integrity, and his relentless pursuit of excellence in all that he did. It is the last stanza of Louis Untermeyer's poem, "Prayer":

From compromise and things half-done,  
Keep me, with stern and stubborn pride;  
But when at last the fight is won,  
God, keep me still unsatisfied.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
ADOPTED JULY 7, 1972

The Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University expresses its sorrow at the death on June 9, 1972, of Ervin H. Pollack, Professor and Director of Research Services in the College of Law.

Dr. Pollack was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on April 19, 1913. After undergraduate work at St. Louis University he received his Juris Doctor degree from Washington University in 1939 and was admitted to the Missouri Bar in the same year. He served as Assistant to the Librarian, Columbia University, from 1939 to 1941 and was Librarian for the New York City law firm of Hays, Podell & Shulman in 1942. From 1942 to 1947 he was Secretary, Office of Price Administration, in Washington, D.C.

In 1947 Dr. Pollack came to The Ohio State University as Assistant Professor and Librarian. He became Associate Professor in 1950 and Professor and Director of Research Services in 1959. Under his dedicated leadership, the library of the College of Law grew from 69,000 to 305,000 volumes. It now ranks as the sixth largest academic law library in the United States. He developed systems of classification and staff organization which make the library one of the most functional in the world.

Dr. Pollack earned an international reputation as a legal scholar. He founded the Ohio Association of Law Libraries and served as its first President in 1949-50. He was President of the American Association of Law Libraries in 1958-59. His *Fundamentals of Legal Research* is widely used as a text and reference work. His many other publications include *Ohio Court Rules Annotated*, *Ohio Unreported Judicial Decisions*, *Brandeis Reader*, and *Human Rights*. At his death he was consultant to the Agency for International Development on a project for publication of Central American Economic Integration Law.

Dr. Pollack was a member of the Order of the Coif, Torch Club, the Ohio State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Legal Philosophy. He was a trustee of the Ohio Legal Center Institute and a Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Association Foundation.

The Ohio State University was the beneficiary of Dr. Pollack's talents in many ways. At his death he was Chairman of the University Rules Committee. He served as Chairman of the Advisory Board for Religious Affairs, as a member of the University Centennial Committee and as Chairman of the College of Law Centennial Committee. He received the University Centennial Service Award.

Dr. Pollack taught in the area of jurisprudence, legal process, legal research and writing, and trade regulation. He relentlessly pursued excellence in all that he undertook and was a man of the highest professional standards and integrity. His many achievements as scholar, teacher and administrator warrant a special place for Dr. Pollack in the history of legal education.

On behalf of the University, the Board of Trustees expresses to the family its deep sympathy and sense of understanding in its loss. It is directed that this resolution be inscribed upon the minutes of the Board of Trustees and that a copy be tendered to the family as a humble expression of the Board's heartfelt sympathy in its bereavement.